

Assembly Meeting - Minutes

8th November 2024, 12.00pm

Assembly House, Waterford



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional
Assembly

Presiding: Cllr. Ken Murnane.

Present: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan, Cllr. Jim D'Arcy, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Mayor John Moran, Cllr. Tony O'Brien, Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cllr. Bill Slattery, Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cllr. Ben Ward.

Present on MS Teams: Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy, Cllr. Michael Collins, Cllr. Deirdre Kelly, Cllr. Mairin McGrath, Cllr. Norma Moriarty, Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Bobby O'Connell, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Peggy Ryan, Cllr. Terry Shannon.

Apologies: Cllr. Garret Kelleher, Cllr. John Paul O'Shea.

Officials Present: David Kelly, Enda Hogan, Ian Ludlow, Eoin O'Connor, Ronan O'Brien, Dr. Rhiannon Carey Bates, Karen Coughlan, Dennis Cotter, Oonagh Messette, Omer Sunguroglu.

Officials Present on MS Teams: Kevin Lynch, Áine Whelan, Breda Curran, Michael Buckley, Elayne McDonnell, Brigh Ryan, Clare Breen, Colm Walsh.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 11th October 2024

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2024, proposed by Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. Oliver Walsh.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. The Economic Impact of Southern Region Ports – Report by Menon Consultants: Presentation and Discussion.

Introducing this item, Eoin O'Connor detailed its requirement to support ROP 145, Ports and Harbours Strategy for the Southern Region, detailing the economic impact of the port sector; direct effects in the ports; total economic impact and the wider economic benefits of ports.

Menon Consultants presented on the detailed the Potential for growth in marine economic sectors; Offshore wind; Marine tourism; Fisheries and aquaculture and Alternative fuels and renewable energy hubs.

There followed much discussion and questions from Cllrs S. O'Callaghan; Ward, Breen, Walsh and Phelan, Moriarty, Sheahan, Colleran Molloy, Coughlan and Mayor Moran. There was a request for a technical paper regarding the funding structure of ports, a round table discussion with the CEOs of the Ports, and an indication of how Members can influence political powers to invest in this sector.



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Having reiterated the reason for this report, David Kelly stated its purpose was to give a good technical understanding of the current state of play in this sector and feed into future planning within the RSES.

The Leas Cathaoirleach proposed that Standing Orders be set aside for the meeting to continue past the specified time. All Members agreed.

4. Smart and Sustainable Mobility Accelerator Programme - Track 2: Update & Discussion.

Eoin O'Connor explained that the programme aims to increase knowledge, skills, and understanding of sustainable and smart mobility at local and regional levels and, in doing so, to tackle systemic and cultural barriers to its implementation.

Cllr. Phelan congratulated progress and albeit delighted that Local Link were very much involved, he would encourage all Councillors from around the country be invited to participate.

5. Nominations to Programme Monitoring Committees

a) Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme Monitoring Committee - Cathaoirleach and 3 members

Cllr. John Brennan was nominated by Cllr Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Breen; Cllr Gillian Coughlan was nominated by Cllr Breen and seconded by Cllr. Walsh; Cllr Bill Slattery was nominated by Cllr Sheahan and seconded by Cllr. Ward.

b) CAP Strategic Plan Monitoring Committee – 1 member

Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan was nominated by Cllr. Coughlan and seconded by Cllr. Sheahan

c) EIST Programme (ESF+) Monitoring Committee – 1 member

Cllr John Sheahan was nominated by Cllr. Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Coughlan.

6. Corporate Plan Update

Members strongly agreed that the Workshop be rescheduled. The Executive agreed, with a new date to be circulated.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Date of next Meeting

13th December 2024

Signed: _____
Cllr. Garret Kelleher
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____



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AGENDA

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 11th October 2024
2. Matters Arising
3. Socio-Economic Economic Impact of Ports in Southern Region – Report By Menon Consultants: Presentation and Discussion
4. Smart and Sustainable Mobility Accelerator Programme - Track 2: Update & Discussion
5. Nomination to Committees of the Southern Regional Assembly;
Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme Monitoring Committee - Cathaoirleach and 3 members
CAP Strategic Plan Monitoring Committee – 1 member
EIST Programme (ESF+) Monitoring Committee – 1 member
6. Update on Members Workshop
7. Any Other Business
8. Date of Next Meeting



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